

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, and I will not object, I just want to say to the minority leader that this is a highly unusual request for us to begin debate and finish a rule and then postpone the vote subject to the general debate starting. We certainly are going to agree with the unanimous-consent request out of courtesy to those in the western part of the country, but I just want it understood that this does not set a precedent; that in the future we are going to have to work these things out in advance, and there could very well be votes earlier than 5 o'clock on Mondays in the future.

And having said that, I appreciate the gentleman's unanimous-consent request and will not object to it.

Mr. GEPHARDT. If the gentleman will yield, I would like to make a short statement and perhaps ask a question.

The point I would like to ask is: With this unanimous-consent request, I assume we have accomplished not having a vote until at least 5 o'clock? Is that correct?

Mr. SOLOMON. Absolutely, and it would be up to your side to call a vote, and as I understand it from your unanimous-consent request that we could interrupt the 2 hours of general debate at any point subject to your decision to call for a vote, but you would not be doing that prior to 5 o'clock. Was that your unanimous-consent request?

Mr. GEPHARDT. That is correct.

Mr. SOLOMON. We certainly concur with that.

Mr. GEPHARDT. I made the unanimous-consent request with the express purpose of making sure we did not have a vote until after 5 o'clock.

Mr. SOLOMON. We would certainly, in agreeing to that, hope there would not be a need for a vote on a previous question, and we would hope that we kind of have that understanding, although I know the gentleman could not guarantee it.

Mr. GEPHARDT. That is correct.

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM HENRY HADDIX

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. SMITH] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago a small group of Marines raised a flag on a far away island in the Pacific Ocean—Iwo Jima. The scene was immortalized for all Americans in the famous photo and memorial statute near Arlington Cemetery.

The battle for Iwo Jima paved the way to victory over Japan. It was not without cost—6,000 Marines were killed. Pvt. William Henry Haddix was one of these who made the supreme

sacrifice of his life. Today when we think of the veterans who died in those wars, our minds play tricks on us. We sometimes imagine those soldiers as old and wise, but most were very young like Bill Haddix. Bill left behind a young wife Etta, and two small children.

He also left behind a beautiful and precious legacy. Just days before he died he had written his wife and family. Private Haddix's daughter—Susan Haddix Harrison from Jackson, MI—Susan is here in the chamber with us today and has generously shared his deeply moving and meaningful letter with me and I share it with you. The letter includes a poem by Private Haddix about his experience on Iwo Jima. Interwoven in the fabric of the words are the golden threads of faith in God and duty to country.

IWO JIMA

I have landed on an island  
in the Pacific salty air  
where heat, rain, mud and bugs  
are an everyday affair.

The nights are long and dreary  
as the pale moon lights the sky,  
and I lie awake a thinking  
as the hours creep slowly by.

Where men must go on fighting  
for land that must be won  
In dirt, grit, slime and sweat  
beneath the burning sun.

I can't help but dream of home  
and the ones I love so dear,  
It makes a man cuss the day  
he ever landed here.

All luxuries are forgotten  
In this land so far away  
and it takes a lot of guts  
for the guy who has to stay.

I pray for you my darling  
every single night  
and know God will care for you  
because you're living right.

When we meet our enemy  
be it day or night  
It's do or die for that poor guy  
for we fight with all our might.

Should I ever receive a call from God  
I know darn good and well,  
That I'm bound to go to heaven  
for I've served my time in Hell.

WILLIAM H. HADDIX,  
*Private, 28th Replacement  
Draft, Co B,  
3rd Marine Division.*

□ 1450

Private Haddix did not ask that he may live. He was prepared to die if need be. All he asked is that he may be ready if he was called. And he asked that his sacrifice may not be in vain.

Today, we salute Private Haddix and all the men of honor and courage who fought beside him five decades ago. We should always remember their bravery, their honor, and their dedication to our Nation. Our most precious inheritance is freedom, but we should remember that it was not free to those who earned it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BATEMAN). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Mis-

souri [Mr. VOLKMER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. VOLKMER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GOSS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio [Ms. KAPTUR] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### WIC: A HEALTH PROGRAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support efforts to streamline Government programs to make them more efficient and cost effective. However, as we implement these reforms, we must make sure our efforts are in the best interest of the individuals these programs are meant to serve. Cutting costs should not mean cutting corners.

So, as we work diligently in the days ahead to trim the size of our Government and reduce Federal spending, I don't want to focus only on what is broken or at least expendable. I also want to look at what is working.

When initiatives do work, we should take that knowledge and experience and apply it in other areas. One proven program which deserves our attention is the supplemental food program for women, infants and children—or WIC as it is better known.

Many people may think of WIC as a welfare program but it is really a public health program. WIC is designed to influence a lifetime of good nutrition and health behaviors. It provides specific nutritious foods to at-risk, income-eligible pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants and children up to 5 years of age.

WIC has a 20-year track record of providing effective, cost-efficient services to some of the Nation's most vulnerable citizens.

Since 1974, WIC has grown from a program operated by a handful of local health departments, hospitals, and community organizations to one serving more than 6 million people through a network of approximately 9,000 clinics nationwide. In my home State of Florida, WIC serves all 67 counties and over 312,000 clients each month.

WIC results in significant increases in the number of women receiving adequate prenatal care and enhances the